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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Masahiro SAITOU, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1745

SERIAL NO.: 09/448,144

:

FILED: November 24, 1999

: EXAMINER: J. MERCADO

FOR: SEPARATOR OF PROTON EXCHANGE FUEL CELL AND ITS  
MANUFACTURING METHOD

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

JUL - 3 2001

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SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated May 31, 2001, Applicants elect, with  
traverse, Group II, Claims 1-6, for further prosecution.

**REMARKS**

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claims 7-16, drawn to the process of making; and

Group II: Claims 1-6, drawn to the product made.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 1-6, for further prosecution.

In addition, Applicants wish to point out that Claim 6 is drawn to a method of  
manufacturing a separator of a proton exchange fuel cell. Thus, Claim 6 must be included in  
Group I. Further, Claim 16 is drawn to the separator of a proton exchange fuel cell made by  
the processes of Claims 6-15. Thus, Claim 16 must be grouped in Group II. In summary,  
elected Group II should include Claims 1-5 and 16.